

had their first two children, Hillene and Linda. Of all their children, Hillene had the ability to do what the opposition could rarely accomplish; knocking her father out of a game. Preacher was pitching when Hillene's birth was announced, at which point he collapsed on the mound.

His finest season as a Padre came in 1942 when he established records for most complete games pitched, batters faced, and innings pitched. During this season, Preacher finished every game he started.

In 1943, Preacher was traded to the Pittsburgh Pirates and at the end of the season, he faced a turning point in his career. While his arm was as strong as ever, his oldest daughter was beginning first grade and America's involvement in World War II made domestic travel difficult. When Bobbie indicated that the family would not be traveling to Pittsburgh that season, Wally chose his family and his beloved Louisiana over baseball. He turned down a contract worth \$10,000 to earn 35 cents per hour in a wartime synthetic rubber factory.

After settling in Westlake, Louisiana, Wally and Bobbie had three sons and he resumed his life of hunting, fishing, and gardening while working in a nearby Firestone factory. He devoted himself to his family after his retirement from Firestone in 1965 and remained active as an outdoorsman until his death in 1999.

Today, Wally is survived by his beloved Bobbie, five children, numerous grandchildren. The legacy of Wally "Preacher" Hebert will long be remembered throughout the San Diego community and I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to his life and long list of accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING THE POLISH
NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF THE
UNITED STATES OF NORTH
AMERICA ON THE OCCASION OF
ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask you and my esteemed colleagues in the House of Representatives to pay tribute to the Polish National Alliance which is celebrating its 125th anniversary this year.

Founded in 1880 in Philadelphia to unite the needs of the people of Poland who had emigrated to the United States, the Alliance has remained faithful to that mission.

The PNA was founded to provide financial, social and leadership opportunities for a new group of Americans.

Since its founding, the PNA has contributed countless volunteer hours and raised significant charitable donations for community service projects and to encourage patriotism.

The PNA continues to support ethnic heritage programs that benefit its members and the community at large.

The PNA is one of 75 fraternal benefit societies that belong to the National Fraternal Congress of America.

The influence of Polish immigrants is a prominent part of the heritage of our community.

Let us remember their contributions and let us honor the women of the PNA who, for gen-

erations, have maintained the traditions and customs of their ancestors and who have given much service to the communities in which they lived.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Polish National Alliance now celebrating 125 years of service. This great nation is far better due to the contributions made by their members over the past century and a quarter.

RECOGNIZING JOHN GURNEY OF
SONOMA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John P. Gurney who is retiring this month after 12 years as the Chief of Police for the City of Sonoma, California.

How a police department in a small town interfaces with the community has always been central to Chief Gurney's policing philosophy. During his tenure in Sonoma, Chief Gurney successfully integrated the concept of community policing into the department by redirecting resources from administration to patrol officers. He established the Sonoma Police Department Community Advisory Council to provide public, input and feedback on department policies, programs and training. He then facilitated a department-wide workshop identifying community expectations and developed a strategic plan to meet those expectations. A departmental mission and value statement was developed to incorporate the community's vision.

He also established the Sonoma Valley Interagency Council for Youth and Family. This organization consists of government and non-profit youth and family service organization and is charged with reducing the risk factors to our youth and their families. In acknowledgment of his work with young people, he received the 2001 Sonoma County Office of Education's Youth Award.

On a countywide basis, Chief Gurney also participated in the development, acquisition and implementation of a \$12 million Computer Aided Dispatch, Records Management and Mobile Computing/Field Reporting system and chaired the Oversight Committee for this project.

Professionally, he has served as President of the Sonoma County Law Enforcement Chiefs Association, Chair of the Santa Rosa Training Center Advisory Committee, member of the California Peace Officer's Association, law enforcement representative to the California Judicial Council Collaborative Justice Courts Advisory Committee, member of the California Police Chief's Association, the California Police Chief's Association representative to both the Community Colleges Chancellor's Office Statewide Public Safety Advisory Committee and the Commission on Peace Officer and Standards and Training Advisory Committee.

As a member of his community, Chief Gurney served on the Board of Directors of the Valley of the Moon Boys and Girls Club, and was in the inaugural class of Leadership Sonoma Valley.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Gurney and his wife Phyllis own a small vineyard in Sonoma and they intend to enjoy the good life upon retirement. It is appropriate that we commend him for his many years of public service and wish him well on his retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISH-
MENTS OF DR. EDWIN AND MRS.
MARY ELLEN HENDERSON

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a family from Virginia's Eighth Congressional District whose recognition is long overdue. For every person of national recognition there is a local leader that accomplishes much under the shadow of their more recognized peers. Two of these people are Dr. Edwin and Mrs. Mary Ellen Henderson, civil rights pioneers from Northern Virginia who have worked for social justice for nearly 50 years. The couple, who were married for 65 years, worked tirelessly for the education of African American children. They also chronicled the early civil rights struggles in letters to the editor published around the country and energized their community in Northern Virginia to join the Nation's civil rights movement.

The Hendersons viewed education as one of the primary sources of human progress, and they both served their communities as teachers. Mary Ellen filled the difficult position of teaching the fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh grades in the local segregated schoolhouse. The two-room facility overflowed with children, and it was heated by a potbelly stove and that lacked running water. Despite these difficult conditions of segregation, Mary Ellen taught with vitality and enthusiasm. Not satisfied with her inequitable surroundings, Mary Ellen worked to improve the conditions around her. By her own measure, she launched a study into the disparity between white and black schoolhouses, focusing on the learning environment and resources. Mary Ellen's work led to the formation of an interracial committee in Fairfax County, and ultimately the decision of the school administration to build the first new school for African American children in the area.

Dr. Edwin Henderson also dedicated his life to education. He focused his efforts on the promotion of interscholastic athletics and was certified as the first African American man to teach Physical Education in public schools. An avid basketball player himself, Edwin is credited with introducing the sport to the Washington, D.C. area as well as promoting athletics within the surrounding African American community. He organized the Interscholastic Athletic Association for black schools, the Public School Athletic League, and the Eastern Board of Officials for African American athletes. In addition, Edwin authored several books that spread awareness about the emergence of black sports. His groundbreaking works included "The Official Spaulding Handbook," "The Negro in Sports," and also "The Black Athlete: Emergence and Arrival." Edwin was a powerful force behind the positive recognition accorded to these athletes. As a result of his efforts, Edwin was admitted as a